

## Message Text

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ACTION CU-03

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 ISO-00 L-03 OES-06 CIAE-00 INR-07

NSAE-00 /032 W

----- 123230

P R 190943Z OCT 76

FM AMEMBASSY MOSCOW

TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 0020

INFO AMCONSUL LENINGRAD

USIA WASHDC

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STATE FOR CU/EE, EUR/SOV; LENINGRAD FOR P&C; USIA FOR IEU

E.O. 11652: NA

TAGS: OEXC, UR

SUBJECT: GS/YF PLACEMENT LEVELS - 1977-79 CULTURAL AGREEMENT  
NEGOTIATIONS

REF: STATE 246877

1. DEPARTMENT SHOULD BE AWARE THAT SOVIET SIDE IS  
LIKELY TO BRING UP MUCH DISCUSSED MATTER OF GY/YF LEVEL  
AND NUMERICAL BALANCE IN CONNECTION WITH 1977-79  
CULTURAL PROGRAM NEGOTIATIONS.

2. DURING MEETING OCTOBER 18, MHE REP POPOV (WHO HAS  
IN PAST FREQUENTLY BROUGHT UP MATTER WITH EMBOFF) TRIED  
NEW APPROACH TO GETTING U.S. SIDE TO ACCEPT MORE SOVIET  
GRANTEES FOR CURRENT ACADEMIC YEAR.

3. POPOV ACKNOWLEDGED RECEIPT OF LETTER SENT TO MHE  
BY EMB BASED ON INFO CONTAINED REF. HE SAID THAT, THERE  
WAS CLEARLY AN IMBALANCE IN NUMBERS OF STUDENTS EXCHANGED  
WHEN ONE COUNTS STUDENTS IN PERFORMING ARTS RECEIVED  
BY MINCULT. POPOV SAID MINCULT HAD NOT SENT ITS FULL  
QUOTA UNDER STUDENTS IN ARTS PROGRAM AND MHE WOULD LIKE  
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TO UTILIZE THE REMINING POSTS.

4. EMBOFF REPLIED THAT HE WAS HAPPY TO KNOW THAT THERE IS NOW SUCH CLOSE CONTACT AND COORDINATION ON EXCHANGES MATTERS BETWEEN MHE AND MINCULT, SINCE THIS WAS OBVIOUSLY NOT THE CASE IN PAST WHEN EMB REQUESTED MHE ASSISTANCE IN GETTING ACCESS TO MINCULT FACILITIES FOR GS/YF EXCHANGES. EMBOFF REMINDS POPOV THAT ANSWER HAD ALWAYS BEEN THAT MHE HAD NO CONTACTS WITH MINCULT AND DID NOT INVOLVE ITSELF IN MINCULT'S AFFAIRS.

5. ON SUBSTANCE OF MHE'S IDEA OF FILLING UNUSED SPACES ON ARTS EXCHANGE, EMBOFF SAID THAT, WHILE MHE NOMINEES IN PERFORMING ARTS FIELDS COULD BE CONSIDERED, MHE SHOULD NOT ATTEMPT TO NOMINATE CANDIDATES IN NON-RELATED FIELDS SUCH AS HARD SCIENCES OR EVEN HUMANITIES. EMBOFF EMPHASIZED THAT EXCHANGE WAS OF STUDENTS IN THE PERFORMING ARTS, THE DEFINITION OF WHICH, HE FELT, WAS CLEAR.

6. POPOV GOT THE POINT BUT IT WAS OBVIOUS FROM THE WAY IN WHICH HE HAD WORDED HIS REMARKS AND FROM HIS REACTION TO EMBOFF'S RESPONSE THAT MHE HAD INDEED BEEN HOPING TO SEND SCHOLARS TO FILL ARTS QUOTE. POPOV LET SLIP INFORMATION THAT QUESTION MAY BE RAISED DURING NEGOTIATIONS AS WELL. MATLOCK

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